

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1 through 64 are pending, with Claims 1 and 39 being independent. Claims 20 through 38 and 60 through 62 were withdrawn from consideration.. Claims 39 through 56, 63, and 64 were allowed. Claim 1 has been amended.

The Official Action requires that Applicant take appropriate action with respect to the withdrawn claims. This requirement is respectfully traversed. Applicant has respectfully maintained said claims, and requests that they be rejoined upon allowance of the elected claims from which they depend.

Claims 2 through 19, 58, and 59 were objected to and indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has maintained these claims in dependent form, as Applicant earnestly believes that the claims from which they depend will be found allowable.

Claims 1 and 57 were again rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,678,080 (Miyamoto). All rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, inter alia, that the surface of the first transparent body which most closely faces the second transparent body is a total-reflection surface.

However, Applicant respectfully submits that Miyamoto fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-discussed claimed features as recited, inter alia, in Claim 1. It is further respectfully submitted that there has been no showing of any indication in the cited document that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at the above-discussed claimed features.

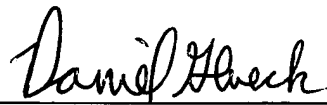
The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

This Amendment After Final Rejection is an earnest attempt to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, and is believed to clearly place this application in condition for allowance. Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that a full appreciation of these amendments will not require undue time or effort given the Examiner's familiarity with this application. Moreover, this Amendment was not earlier presented because Applicant earnestly believed that the prior Amendment placed the subject application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Daniel S. Glueck", positioned above a horizontal line.

Attorney for Applicant
Daniel S. Glueck
Registration No. 37,838

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200
DSG/DAD/lip/dc

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